



State of California
Respiratory Care Board
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Inquiry: Respiratory Care Practitioners are now able to receive direct reimbursement from MediCal and private insurance carriers. Practitioners must function under the direction of a medical director; therefore I would like to ask the following questions: (1) What are the qualifications of a Medical Director, MD, or an RCP receiving direct reimbursement? (2) Can the RCP receiving direct reimbursement have more than one Medical Director? (3) If so, would one Medical Director have a greater role than the other would? (4) What is the role and duties of each Medical Director? (5) Should The RCP have a written contract with each Medical Director? (6) Would the RCP protocols need to be signed by the Medical Director? (7) Would the RCP protocols be Medical Director specific? (8) Does the RCP receiving direct reimbursement need to notify the RCB of who his Medical Director is? (9) How would an RCP know if an alternate site has a Medical Director before reporting to work there? (10) Should all RCP's notify the RCB of who their Medical Directors are? (11) Does the RCB have a roster of Medical Directors? Please refer to the attached documentation.

Response: Please be advised that questions 1, 2, 3, 4, and 8 are related to RCP reimbursement, and the RCB does not regulate the reimbursement of RCP's.

In reference to question 5 regarding RCP's having a written contract with each MD: The RCB suggests that competent legal counsel be consulted regarding this matter.

In reference to question 6 regarding RCP protocols needing to be signed by the MD; and question 7 regarding specific protocols needed: The RCB suggests that a "respiratory care protocol," as defined in Section 3702 of the RCPA, be developed for these procedures.

In reference to question 9 regarding an RCP knowing if an alternate site has an MD: The RCP should obtain this information from the alternate site.

In reference to question 10 regarding RCP's notifying the RCB of who their MD's are: Please be advised that this is not required by law and therefore, the RCB does not require this from the RCP's.

In reference to question 11 requesting a list of MD's: The RCB does not have this information.